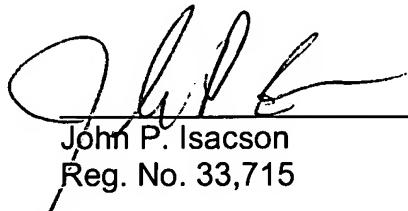


REMARKS

Claims 1-14 are pending in the application. Claims 2-3 and 5-14 are amended to remove multiple dependencies, correct informalities, and/or clarify claim language. The abstract is fully supported by the original specification and the international publication no. WO2004/016633. No new matter has been added. A first office action on the merits is awaited.

Respectfully submitted,

February 11, 2005
Date


John P. Isaacson
Reg. No. 33,715

HELLER EHRLMAN WHITE & MCAULIFFE LLP
1666 K Street, N.W., Suite 300
Washington, D.C. 20006
Phone: 202-912-2000
Fax: 202-912-2020
Customer No. 26633